



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MAR 31 2008

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The Honorable Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Johnson:

On behalf of the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC), I am writing to commend EPA's work in supporting the network of Environmental Finance Centers (EFCs). At our LGAC meeting in Sun Valley, Idaho, September 18-19, 2007, Mr. Bill Jarocki, Director of the Environmental Finance Center, at Boise State University, demonstrated the many financial tools of the EFCs. He also led a field trip for the LGAC to gain a better understanding of the unique challenges of small communities and the use of financial tools to help meet these challenges.

One of these computer-based tools, is the *Directory of Watershed Resources* (<http://efc.boisestate.edu/watershed>), a comprehensive searchable database of over 1,100 sources of federal, state, local and private foundation funding and other services. The LGAC believes it is especially useful because it serves as a 'one-stop-shop' for communities in seeking funding and other resources for community projects.

The Directory currently contains information from EPA Region 1 states and the states of Missouri (Region 7) and Arkansas (Region 6). The LGAC strongly recommends that EPA consider expanding this database to add all states because of its value to aid states and local governments in meeting their goals for a sustainable, clean, and safe environment.

We commend EPA and the EFCs for its vital role in serving states and local governments. The LGAC remains committed to helping EPA enhance this collaboration, which is absolutely critical to maintain and sustain the progress we have made in the last eight years.

Frances Eargle
Designated Federal Officer
U.S. EPA
State and Local Relations
(202) 564-3115

We strongly believe that the local government perspective is integral to the successful implementation of environmental protection nationally.

Please feel free to contact me at (208) 280-2163, or Ms. Frances Eargle, LGAC Designated Federal Office at (202) 564-3115.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Roy Prescott', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

B. Roy Prescott

cc: Honorable Lyons Gray,
EPA's Chief Financial Officer

Christopher P. Bliley
Associate Administrator
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental